



South Otago High School

Newsletter 1st April 2021

Nga mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa
Warm greetings to you all

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou

Welcome to the start of a very long weekend! Usually Easter falls in the school holidays but this year it is out of step and so we have this break a couple of weeks before the school holidays. It is possibly the last of the fine weather before winter makes itself felt. It is certainly cooler and I am looking forward to changing the clocks on Saturday night if only to have a longer sleep!

This week at school has been very busy with students travelling as part of their studies to either Stewart Island or Wanaka. We have also had other events supporting student participation in sport too.

Taieri Interchange

On Tuesday students travelled to Taieri College for the annual summer sports exchange. This time about 100 students were away from school participating in a range of sports. The report back was that students had a great time and the competition was fierce. Once again a full report appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

Participation in sport and cultural activities

Whilst we encourage all students to participate in sport and cultural activities this should not be at the expense of student's education. Earlier this term teachers in charge of sports and other activities have spoken to students to explain that their participation in tournaments or other out of class events may be restricted if they have poor attendance or outstanding fees etc. The details of the criteria for participation are as follows:

Attendance; Students need to be in class and learning in their courses of study. As a minimum students are expected to maintain an 80% or better attendance rate.

To have demonstrated that they can be a good ambassador for the school. This means that students have a positive pastoral record and where mistakes have been made students have worked to resolve issues and accepted the consequences of their actions. This decision will be made in consultation with Deans and senior leaders.

Outstanding fees have been managed. Students are expected to be 'financial players'. That is, they do not have outstanding debts carried over from one year to the next or across different codes. Where there are instances of genuine financial hardship there is support available to remove this barrier in cases where there is genuine need.

Teacher only day 11 May

Although some time away, South Otago High School is going

to be having a teacher only day early next term on 11 May. This is one of the days allocated in 2021 for all secondary teachers in New Zealand to undertake professional development to support the work being undertaken to update NCEA.

Chromebooks and student owned devices

South Otago High School is a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) school and we recommend the purchase and use of a chrome book for student use. Recently, we have noticed that a few students are 'forgetting' to bring their device to school. This disrupts their learning and can be wasteful of student time. I would encourage all parents to remind students to: Check that their device is fully charged ready to use at school each day In their bag ready to go to school in good order and able to be used.

The school does have some loan devices which are available if the student owned device is being repaired or is damaged etc. For long term loan we do request a \$50 deposit which is refundable when the device is returned in working condition.

Life Long learner

In teaching and in life we talk about life long learning and that the ability and need to continue to learn extends beyond school. Normally in the newsletter we celebrate student success but this week I would like to acknowledge our own life long learner, Mr Toby Swallow who recently graduated with a Masters Degree in Contemporary Education. Congratulations on your new qualification!



Finally

With the long weekend upon us do encourage students to take a break and get outside. It has been good to see students preparing for the winter sports season with pre season training sessions proving to be popular. Getting out and being active does make us feel better so do make the most of this opportunity that the extra few days off provides us all. Have a good weekend

Ka kite ano

Mike Wright
Principal

Upcoming Events Term 1 2021

- Friday 2nd to Tuesday 6th April..... Easter - School Closed
- Friday 16th April..... Last Day Term 1

Upcoming Events Term 2 2021

- Monday 3rd May..... Start of Term 2
- Tuesday 11th May..... Teacher Only Day
- Friday 21st May..... Pink Shirt Day
- Friday 28th May..... SNOB

Library

Just a reminder this week, Easter is a good time to have a look for those overdue library books so you can bring them back to school when you come back. As I write this, there are over 100 books that are overdue so if your student is still reading their book please ask them to check their school e-mails for the link to our library page that I have sent everyone. Students can easily renew their own books from their personalised library page and there is a tutorial on the web app to show them how to navigate the site. Have a great Easter everyone.

Katrina Pudney
Librarian



Mr Heller, Otago University liaison officer will be visiting SOHS on the afternoon of Wednesday 7th April. This initial visit will cover an overview of learning and living at Otago University for Y13 students. He will also share a shorter presentation for Y12 students which focuses on the importance of Year 12 in preparation for university study. Y12 presentation will be in D2 from 1.45pm - bring your lunch along. Y13 presentation will commence 2.10pm in D2.



‘THETA’ Health Presentation and Workshops

Next week on Wednesday 7th April The Theatre in Health Education Trust will be in school giving a 50 minute presentation and then a follow up 50 minute workshop to all Year 10 students. This presentation is titled ‘Sexwise’ and is free of charge for our students, as it is supported by the Ministry of Health. The ‘Sexwise’ presentation and workshop aims to initiate student recognition of, and discussion about:

- Problem solving and strategies to deal with wellbeing, related to sexual activity.
- Social interactions: friendships; building relationships; sexual attraction, influences and pressures.
- Risks and challenges; informed decision-making; safer sexual practices.
- Issues of self-worth and empowerment, individuality and accepting responsibility.
- Attitudes and stereotypes; tolerance and prejudice; diversity and sexual orientation.
- Rights and responsibilities; ethical issues.
- Health services and student support.

Below is the timetable:

Times	Group Attending
Period 1	All Year 10 students in Hall
Period 2	10 O in D8
Period 3	10 M in M2
Period 4	10 Y in M2
Period 5	10 L in Library

If you do not wish for your child to attend, please contact me via email.

Nathan King
Aching HOD Physical Education & Health
nking@sohs.school.nz

Special Olympics co ordinator, Chris Moffitt visits our school each week and involves our Learning Centre students in a range of sports.



Blue Light Take A Kid Flying

Sunday 18th April 2021 time to be confirmed.

We have once again been given the opportunity, with the support of the South Otago Aero Club, to TAKE A KID FLYING.

This offer is open to all students, year 7 to 13 however seats are limited, please forward names and completed consent forms for 5 students in order of recommendation, bearing in mind that only 2 or 3 from your school may be able to attend due to the availability of seats.

I ask that you have the parent / caregiver of all children recommended by you, complete the consent form attached and return to you so you can forward them to me with your list of names.

Please ensure parents contact details are on the form so they can be contacted directly by me when seat numbers are confirmed.

Please have all details emailed back to me by Tuesday the 13th April 2021.

Any questions please phone me.

Thanks
Tanya Grant
S/Constable
Balclutha Youth Aid / Family Harm

Ph 0211914824
tanya.grant@police.govt.nz

Consent form attached to the email

Head Lice

Please be aware that head lice are doing the rounds at South Otago High School. Please check your student's hair and if you find head lice, treat them before your student returns to school.

Year 11 Geography Trip—Stewart Island

Earlier this week our Year 11 Geography students headed to Stewart Island to study sustainability. The conditions for travelling down on Sunday were the calmest we have seen in four years and this resulted in only one student suffering from seasickness which was a real positive. With the afternoon off students tended to spend the time fishing, exploring Four Square or settling into the accommodation.

Monday saw the majority of the learning take place. Students had the opportunity for a guided walk around Ulva island to learn about both the impacts of humans in the past but also the steps being taken now to make that island predator free. It is a place I do recommend you all visit and making the use of a local guide really enhances the experience. In the afternoon we spent time with a local organisation called .SIRCEt to check out one of their trapping lines on the main island. Happily only 2 of the 21 traps contained the pests which is a sign the trapping is working. That night we went kiwi spotting. One of the groups had more luck than the other group and had a kiwi walk almost within touching distance. The other group had a nice noisy walk instead it seemed.

Tuesday morning saw us visit the impressive new museum which was built last year and see how the island used to be used. One small documentary was so good some students even watched it four times. There was definitely a lot to see though and most students managed to look around the entire place. After that it was time to head for Invercargill on another really calm sailing so the stomachs were well and truly settled for a lunch of pizza before getting into the vans and heading home.

I want to say a big thank you to Miss Bonney and Mr Carroll for their work on the trip. Both were so proactive in getting things done that it made the trip run smoothly. I am sure the students would join in on passing on those thanks

Mike Beeby
HOD Social Sciences

Photos thanks to Alyssa Atkin-Coutts



Year 13 PE Trip

On Wednesday 24th March a group of 24 Year 13 PE students headed to Queenstown as part of an Achievement Standard on Contemporary Leadership. Students have been completing research on various contemporary leadership styles throughout Term 1 and the trip to Queenstown gave them the opportunity to implement some of these leadership styles throughout various activities.

In the afternoon, students were split into groups of 4 as they competed in an Amazing Race. Students were tasked with finding various locations around Frankton, Lake Hayes, Queenstown and along Highway #6. In doing so students were required to mountain bike and walk/run. After 3 hours and 15 minutes the group of Maddie Deacon, Briana Dent, Gemma Johnson and Allen Uson were crowned the champions of the inaugural Amazing Race. The morning of Thursday 25th March saw students navigate their way up the Tiki Trail to the top of the Skyline Gondola. After admiring the views and a quick refreshment break many students enjoyed the opportunity to race each other in the luge carts. A peaceful ride down the mountain in the gondola was followed by a spot of shopping and a bite to eat then it was back in the minivans and back to school.

A special mention to Mack Maaka who showed her courage in jumping off the Kawarau bridge. Thanks also to Mr Ensor and Ms Bonney for supporting the students on this trip.

Mr King

Year 13 PE Teacher



Netball 2021 Teams 2021

A Team

Briana Dent
Jade Kyle
Gemma Johnson
Mack Maaka
Gerogia Milne
Sophie Ruffell
Ingrid Scoon
Emily Unahi
Kasey Valli
Luana Valli

B Team

Sarah Bloxham
Anna Clarke
Olivia Davidson
Jade Field
Aimee Johnson
Nataleah Marshall
Abby Ponsonby
Lily Pringle
Olivia Soper

C Team

Emma Bennett
Madi Beveridge
Lucy Greer
Emily Johns
Annie Lawrence
Leah McLaren
Jess Sheppard
Abby Stewart

Bullets

Ruby Budge
Bree Hale
Tayler McLaughlan
Kadys Roy
Nicole Sinclair
Devin Thomson
Jahnae Palmer

ALPHA

Imogen Barlow
Leticia Cochrane
Holly Davidson
Zoe Hyslop
Sydney Marshall
Leah Stephens
Kayley Strachan
Darrian Sutton
Zara Upston

BETA

Maddie Bielski
Bella Brown
Julia Fernandez
Amber James
Emily Jenkinson
Millie McNab
Emily Smith
Jasmine Van Asperen
Daikoyta Weir

BLUE

Tyla Dodds
Taylor Dobbie
Melania Yalewanirabe
Bree Campbell
Bella Findlay
Graycen Kell
Poppy Johnstone
Olivia Moffat
Porshia Frisby

GREEN

Courtney Jelley
Shannon Coetser
Bella Goddard
Kaitlin Miller
Jessica Allan
Aleisha Davey
Samantha Batt
Chantel Smales

RED

Brooke Johnson
Lucy Milne
Taaliah Melvin
Kordelia Brown
Mariah Ioane
Ella McCarthy
Nadia Asman
Aimee Arndt
Dahlia Anderson

Our 2021 netball teams are all confirmed with coaches and practicing times thank you to our coaches and managers that have put their hands up to take one of our teams in 2021. Lets hope we have no interruptions with the season like in 2020. As I write this report for our newsletter we are still not sure if all our teams are entering into the Friday night competition SONC have a meeting next week and I am sure will let the South Otago netball community know asap.

Coaches/Managers

- Senior A - Trudy Cochrane/Michelle Odell
- Senior B - Cheryl Blair/Jo Jory
- Senior C - Lisa Ross
- Bullets - Lisa Ross
- Alpha - Bronwyn Hutton/Maddie Deacon
- Beta - Olivia Davidson
- Blue - Jemaig Miller/ Amy Morrison
- Green - Amy Lawrence
- Red - Sophie Ruffell

Practises

- Senior A - Wednesday 6.00-8.00pm SOHS Gym
- Senior B - Thursdays 5.00-7.00pm SOHS Gym
- Senior C - Tuesday 5.00-7.00pm SOHS Gym
- Bullets - Tuesday 5.00-7.00pm SOHS Gym
- Alpha - TBC
- Beta - 3.30-4.30pm Monday SOHS Gym
- Blue - TBC
- Green - 3.30-5.00pm Tuesday SOHS Gym
- Red - 3.30-5.00pm Tuesday SOHS Gym

Pam Hannah
Sports Coordinator

A Netball Team 2021

Our senior A team have been playing for the past two weeks in a the pre-season competition in Dunedin. Our whole netball club have new uniforms for the 2021 season.



TAIERI SUMMER INTERCHANGE

On Tuesday 89 students Mr Scarth, Ms Hasanbegovic, Mr Bertanese and myself travelled to Mosgiel to compete in our annual summer interchange against Taieri College. We were meet with a whole school challenge and haka which was impressive.

RESULTS

Volleyball

Seniors - 0-3 loss

Junior A - 0-3 loss

Junior B - 1-2 loss

Cricket

Girls - 65 run loss

Boys - 8 wicket loss

Overall result SOHS (2) Taieri (7)

Pam Hannah

Sports Coordinator

Theatre Sports

Strong win to us

Golf

Loss to some strong golfers

Touch

Senior - 8-5 win

Junior 7-9 loss

